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Deputy Secretary Parnell Comes to FNS



Deputy Secretary Jack Parnell visited FNS July 28 for an issues briefing. Deputy administrators and staff directors discussed items relating to their respective areas.

Following the briefing, Parnell spoke to all employees and provided an opportunity for questions. After the Q&A session, Acting Administrator Scott Dunn presented Parnell with a cap and t-shirt commemorating FNS' 20th Anniversary.

-Story by Sarah Ide
Office of the Administrator
Photo by Pamela Faith
Public Information Staff

Ed Hekman Christen's FNS as the First Administrator

For FNS, Ed Hekman was the right man, in the right place, at the right time. He came to head up the agency at the end of the turbulent 60's--the era of Woodstock.

Food programs had gotten a big boost when Kennedy became president in 1961. But then they languished, and criticism mounted as we became preoccupied with Vietnam. When a new Administration came in (in 1969), a new assistant secretary, Dick Lyng, determined that we did have the resources to feed our hungry and boldly declared: "It's time to put an end to hunger in America." Lyng then started headhunting for the someone who could give leadership to the bold program he'd conceived.

Ed Hekman was the scion of the Hekman Biscuit family of Grand Rapids and led its development into United Biscuit and then Keebler Company. His stature grew in the grocery manufacturing industry, and he became increasingly acquainted with Washington and its power. He recognized not only what Washington could do for a special-interest industry but how much it could do socially--like "put an end to hunger."



(Hekman Continued Next Page)

(Hekman Continued)

Their two paths converged--Lyng looking for a leader and Hekman looking for a cause to champion. Asked what he was looking for in an FNS Administrator, "Someone," Lyng replied, "just like Ed Hekman."

Hekman got a rousing introduction to his new job. He arrived in Washington on December 3 and was sworn in immediately, smack in the middle of the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health. The town was full of concerned people, some 3,000 delegates to the conference who mostly all agreed not enough was being done, more had to be done.

Their opinions swirled around the conference hotel, covered completely by a huge press corps, with their stories dominating the nation's network news and the papers' front pages. What was needed, they all agreed, was a commitment and then leadership to put the commitment into action.

White House conferences had a reputation for being a flash in the pan. But Lyng

and Hekman were devoted to getting lasting results from this one.

Hekman recognized he was new to the business of government, kept an open mind about it, and knew that he'd lucked out finding an experienced, dedicated staff in charge of the Department's food programs.

Appreciating his confidence and his backing, FNS staff responded to his leadership by working even harder than they had before--to perfect existing programs, to boost participation in them, and to launch new programs of food assistance.

There's never been a way, statistically, to measure the true impact of food programs. But anyone who's seen them in action knows there are millions of Americans whose lives have been enriched because of the leadership that Ed Hekman gave to FNS as its first administrator.

-Story by Phil Fleming
First Public Information Director
Photo by Bachrach

FDPIR Meeting Convenes in Dallas

Most SWRO tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations were represented at a recent budget policy meeting in Dallas. Also taking part were SWRO field staff from Albuquerque, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa who work with the Oklahoma and New Mexico tribes. Supplemental and Indian Food Programs (SIFP) Director Chuck Tercero and his FDPIR staff coordinated the agenda.

SWRO Information Resources Management Director Jimmie Davis, who developed the automated food inventory system used by the region's Indian food programs, was also on hand to troubleshoot any problems the tribes might be having with their individual systems. Here, SIFP food program specialist Henry Barber (right) and Davis (center) look on as a representative of the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribe runs the system.



-Story by Blanche Jackson
Photo by Kay Blakley
SWRO Public Affairs Staff

NERO Finds a Solution to Whittle Away at Waste and...



Harold McLean, NERO regional administrator (left); Peter Manning, program analyst; and Karen Davidson, food program specialist, discuss NERO's successful "Save a Tree" campaign. Two

and one-half months into the effort, enough paper had been collected by NERO to save 16 trees, and the number continues to grow--about two trees a week.

"It's good to see employees are taking a real interest in the campaign," said McLean. "Besides just putting paper in the bins, it has made people more conscientious of paper use. Employees have made a number of excellent suggestions on how we can reduce the amount of paper that goes through the office, so while we can recycle the paper we use, we can actually use less. I'm very proud of both the results and the efforts that NERO employees are making."

...Receives an EPA Special Act Award for Recycling

NERO Regional Administrator Harold McLean (left) discusses recycling with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Administrator William K. Reilly. Reilly, recognizing NERO's "Save a Tree" paper recycling campaign, presented McLean with an EPA Special Act Award at a recent EPA regional meeting in Boston. McLean accepted the award on behalf of NERO employees whom he credits with making the recycling campaign a success.

-Story and photos by NERO
Public Affairs Staff



Get Out Your Dance Shoes Everyone



**Remember to RSVP by Sept. 1
for the First FNS Dance
in Celebration of the
20th Anniversary!**

FRS Goes Hollywood

Meadow Point Elementary School in suburban Denver served as the movie set for an upcoming videotape production on the Federal Review System (FRS). Excited students and faculty welcomed headquarters FRS staffers Lori Hier, Marlene Benemann, and Sandra Shepherd, as well as a full TV-production crew intent on depicting the essence of why the system is needed. The director and film crew worked with real students and child actors in producing the 11-minute tape expected to be released this fall. Regional public affairs offices will get several copies to lend to state agencies and local school districts for training sessions that explain the monitoring and review effort.



Professional child actors were hired from the area to "star" in the FRS production. Director Patty Zubeck discusses the afternoon shooting schedule with two boys and two girls who had speaking parts. Parents of the actors (background) accompanied their children during the 3 days of filming.

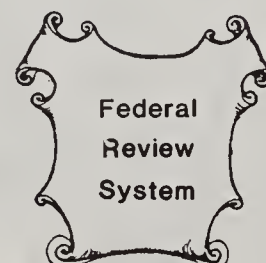


Director Patty Zubeck shows Meadow Point students their marks during filming of the FRS videotape. Despite having to stand in line for a couple of hours and rehearse their moves, the volunteer actresses would consider future acting careers.



-Story and photos by Craig Forman
MPRO Public Affairs Staff

As the children came through the line, video photographers captured footage of the school's computerized accounting system which features an electronic scanning device. The notebook contains student names and coding for paid, reduced-price and free categories for compiling daily participation figures.



FNS Welcomes Summer Interns

FNS welcomes Reynold Garcia (Ray) and Kimberly M. Gloster (Kim) to the agency. Ray and Kim were recruited as part of USDA's effort to increase cooperation with the 1890 Land-Grant Colleges.

Ray, a senior majoring in mass communication at Tennessee State University in Nashville, is the only person from an 1890 Land-Grant College working as an intern in an FNS region. "I felt getting an education was more important," said Ray, who was drafted by the Detroit Tigers but instead chose to begin a government career at SERO. "So far the people have been really wonderful. They have encouraged and helped me. That's the type of environment I'd like to work in when I graduate."

Haynes Pressley, SERO's Civil Rights director, said, "His bilingual skills also are very helpful in the Miami Branch Office." "He has been a great asset," said Pedro Renaud, Miami Branch Office OIC. "He's responsible and seems to have a lot of potential."

Kim, a computer science major at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, works at headquarters Personnel Division as a personnel management specialist.



Estelle E. Gross, head of the Classification and Organization Section, PED, said, "Kim has worked in all the sections of the Operations Branch and has been a great asset to PED."

Floyd Wheeler, chief of Operations Branch, said, "It is difficult to determine how we would have made it this summer without Kim. I only hope we have not overwhelmed her due to the multitude of tasks. With her commitment and dedication, she will make an excellent employee anywhere. I hope she will make her career with the Government."

-Story by Steve Watson
SERO Public Affairs Staff and
Estelle Gross, Personnel Division
Photos by Pedro Renaud, Miami Branch
Office and Pamela Faith, Public
Information Staff



SERO Holds Nutrition Seminar

Is there a relationship between stress and nutrition? What can I do if my cholesterol level is high? These were two of the many questions answered during a 2-hour seminar sponsored by SERO during National Fitness Month.

"Wellness means self-responsibility and disease prevention," said Cathy Morgan of the American Heart Association, who conducted the seminar. "Once you get the knowledge and the facts, you have freedom."



Cathy Morgan (center) discusses nutrition tips with Janette Cox (left) and Marva Mikell (right) during the nutrition seminar.

Morgan explained that knowledge leads to the freedom to control your cholesterol level and to manage stress better through eating proper foods and exercising. She advised everyone to have their cholesterol levels checked and to take an inventory of what they eat to be sure their bodies are getting the right nutrients.

The answer to cholesterol control is to start early and do not do any more damage to your body, Morgan said. She encouraged participants to eat more vegetables and to consider meat as a condiment, not the main course of the meal. She warned seminar participants of the pitfalls of hidden fat and added that proper diet and exercise can lower cholesterol levels in 3 to 4 months.

Plans are now underway to survey employee interest in cholesterol screening. The nutrition seminar definitely made an impression, and SERO employees may be healthier as a result.

-Story and photo by Steve Watson
SERO Public Affairs Staff

MWRO Hosts Regional Indian Tribal Organization Conference

MWRO's Food Distribution Program (FDP) staff recently hosted its second annual conference for the Indian tribal organizations (ITO's) in Chicago. Representatives from 20 of the 21 Indian reservations participated. The conference focused on ITO budget and financial reporting procedures. In addition to FDP staff, presentations were made by regional nutritionist Dr. Robert Dean and Financial Management staff.

MWRO Financial Management Director Ollice Holden presented certificates of appreciation to tribes which had done accurate and timely financial reporting for fiscal year 1988.



Food program specialist Carla McGill explains warehouse procedures to Charles Kagigebi of the Lac Courte Oreilles (left) and Rick Peterson of the Bad River Indian Reservation (right).

-Story and photo by MWRO
Public Affairs Staff

20th Anniversary Photo Trivia

My name is Friday. This is my partner. Now, let me get this straight. "Clem Clumski, the ketchup king, copped a copper ketchup kettle from Kiki's Combination Quality Cafe and All Night Ketchup Club in Kansas." Is that about it?



Okay, she may not be cute, but she has a great personality.



You'll get another certificate after our next trip to Puerto Rico.

Friday Letter Vacancy Listing by Vacancy Number

| JOB TITLE | AREA OF CONSID. | SERIES | GRADE | CLOSING DATE | VACANCY NUMBER | OFFICE LOCATION |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| o Food Program Spec. | (A) | GS-0120 | 12 | 08/28/89 | 89-147 | CND |
| o Program Analyst | (FNS-N) | GS-0345 | 13 | 08/24/89 | 89-148 | PID |
| o Program Analyst | (FNS-N) | GS-0345 | 13 | 08/24/89 | 89-149 | PID |
| o Program Analyst | (FNS-N) | GS-0345 | 13 | 08/24/89 | 89-150 | PID |
| o Mgmt. Analyst | (G) | GS-0343 | 5/7/9 | 09/05/89 | 89-151 | ASD |
| o Mgmt. Analyst | (A) | GS-0343 | 5/7/9 | 09/05/89 | 89-151A | ASD |
| o Nutritionist | (A) | GM-0630 | 11/13 | 09/25/89 | 89-H-152 | HNIS |
| o Food Program Spec. | (FNS-HQ) | GS-0120 | 5/7 | 08/28/89 | 89-153 | FDD |
| o Food Program Spec. | (FNS-HQ) | GS-0120 | 11/12 | 09/11/89 | 89-154 | SFPD |
| o Food Program Spec. | (A) | GS-0120 | 11/12 | 09/11/89 | 89-154A | SFPD |
| o Accounting Tech. | (FNS-HQ) | GS-0525 | 5 | 09/11/89 | 89-155 | BUD |

Office Location

PID - Program Information Division
 BUD - Budget Division
 CND - Child Nutrition Division
 ASD - Administrative Services Division
 HNIS - Human Nutrition Information Service
 SFPD - Supplemental Food Programs Division
 FDD - Food Distribution Division

Area of Consideration

(A) - All Sources
 (FNS-N) - Food and Nutrition Service - Nationwide
 (FNS-HQ) - Food and Nutrition Service - Headquarters
 (G) - Governmentwide

Ray Pugh Suffers Two Heart Attacks

Former Deputy Administrator for Financial Management Ray Pugh was hospitalized for a mild heart attack on August 5 while vacationing at Ocean City, Maryland. He was released on August 14 and suffered another heart attack on August 17 at his home in Springfield, Virginia. He is at Fairfax Hospital in critical condition.

Ray's wife said the cards from his friends at FNS have been a big boost to his spirits. If you would like to send a card, please contact Laura Adkins at 8-756-6802.

Mary E. Kennedy, Editor

The Friday Letter is published every two weeks by the Public Information Staff of the Food and Nutrition Service. To update mailing address or to alter number of copies received, please mail changes to the FNS Public Information Staff, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 823, Alexandria, VA 22302, telephone 756-3000.

-Story by Laura Adkins
Budget Division